

The Journey of Hanna Joy

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Hello All,

I have had a full and interesting three months in which I have been able to work alongside a variety of groups, usually as a teacher, but always learning more. I hope you enjoy these snapshots of what I have been doing.

Hanna

Tigak

Catherine and I spent two days helping Miskum edit and format the Tigak Hymn Book. It was a word processing challenge, but one made more enjoyable by the fact we kept humming the tunes when we recognised their names. This hymn book will help the Tigak to worship God in their own language.



Catherine working with Miskum

Advisor checking with the Tiang



Next?!

One discovery from working in New Ireland with Catherine was that we work very well together, even in stressful times. We are now looking at the option of partnering long term. Catherine is currently back in the US on a six month furlough. When she returns we'll further test our work relationship. Until then, I am looking at the long list of languages where we could allocate and trying to narrow it down. It is a slow process, but a good one. Meanwhile, I have other short term language tasks where I can contribute.



Drafting and editing

Tiang

While in New Ireland we ran a Sunday School materials workshop with the Tiang. Although Sunday School materials do not go through as many checks as Scripture, they follow a similar translation process;

- 1) Teaching **translation principles**: how to make sure the translation is clear, accurate and natural
- 2) **Drafting**, including a review of their alphabet, how to use punctuation and discussions on spelling Biblical names in the local language as well as on the use of key terms
- 3) **Editing** to make sure the draft meets the clear, accurate and natural guideline
- 4) **Back translating**: this means turning the local language back to Tok Pisin for an advisor to check
- 5) **Advisor checking**: The fun part! This is when we sit together and use their back translation and other resources to read, question and check that what is said is the same as the original
- 6) **Formatting**
- 7) Final **read through** and edit
- 8) **Print** (or 'fight the duplex machine until you win')
- 9) **Celebrate** the amazing amount of work done in a short space of time and send it back to the village with the team for use in Sunday School and any more editing and correction which they find

It was a busy time, but rewarding. In the words of one of the participants: *"I have never read the Bible so much before!* We read the Bible from morning until evening in the workshop. We read it in English. We read it in Tok Pisin. We read it in Tiang. And when I read the Bible in English or Tok Pisin, I get this much." Solomon spread his thumb and forefinger apart. "But, *when I read it in Tiang, then I get this much.*" He stretched one arm above his head and the other below his waist.

That's why we do it!

Multicultural teamwork

It is said one of the primary reasons people leave missions is conflict with other missionaries. For two weeks I attended a workshop aimed at reducing cultural stress by fostering understanding of both our own and each other's cultures. By sharing stories and reflecting on different cultural values, as well as biblical values, we gave ourselves some tools for responding well when the 'other' seems so different.



Some of the women in the workshop: this photo includes people who are British, German, PNGn, American, Australian, Colombian, Korean-Canadian and Japanese-American



YWAM Stepping back into the maritime world after 18 months away was a challenge, but one I enjoyed. For three weeks I joined the YWAM ship Pacific Link as they did medical work in Gulf Province. Each day we would run medical teams to different village by zodiac, bringing back patients for the on-board dental clinic. We spent most of our time anchored near Kikori hospital, where an ophthalmology team was doing eye surgery, mostly on cataracts. It was a rewarding time of immersing myself in the world of YWAM, sharing stories and thinking of ways our two organisations can support each other as we work in PNG.

Thank you!

I'm behind on my mail but would still like to express my thanks to each of you who supports me with finances and in prayer. I would not be here without you.

Prayer Points

Wisdom and Patience: in deciding which language group to finally allocate to long term, as well as for short term decisions and plans.

Praise for all the good things in the last few months

Praise for ongoing good health

Provision of people who are willing to serve either short or long term to fill the various needs in PNG For the **Tigak**, the **Tiang** and the communities we visited in **Gulf Province**

That my colleagues and I may be slow to anger and quick to forgive when we struggle with **cultural difference**

Project Office

For the first half of this year I shared the office with Janet but since she returned to the US in early July, I've been holding the fort on my own. This means learning the half of the job Janet did, as well as keeping up with everything else. We are looking for someone else to come into the office part time, but everyone here is already busy. In each department there are needs but not enough people. Thank you for keeping all our work in your prayers and please be open to maybe being the one who answers the call and comes to join us in serving in PNG.

Online... My blog: blessingsandbubbles.blogspot.com
The corporate blog (including opportunities to serve): thepngexperience.wordpress.com

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